

The Forest is a collage of ecosystems. Each ecosystem is unique in the types of animals who make their home there. There are five watchable wildlife sites identified to showcase some of these habitat types. Bring your binoculars and your camera, and tread softly to view the real owners of the Wayne National Forest. Each of the five sites are identified by which of the three units of the Wayne National Forest they are on.

In addition to these sites, we recommend the Hocking Valley Birding Trail which is covered in a separate brochure.

The abundance of wildlife on the Wayne is impressive: almost 50 species of mammals, over 150 bird species, and dozens of reptilian, amphibian and fish species, and we're finding more species all the time. Finding these animals is part of the adventure.

Several areas on the Forest offer unique opportunities to view wildlife in their natural homes. Part of the excitement lies in the uncertainty of what you might see. Unlike more predictable opportunities to view wildlife, these sites are homes to diverse species, any of which you might encounter during your visit. To improve your chances, walk quietly and slowly, walk into the wind, come early in the morning, or late afternoon, and be patient.

Watchable Wildlife

Opportunities abound for enjoying nature on the Wayne National Forest. Nature Watch programs are for people to experience wildlife, fish, flowers, and autumn colors in their natural settings; promote recreational viewing opportunities; facilitate learning about the environment; and to promote conservation efforts and wise use of natural resources.

Nature Watch on the Wayne NF

Nature Viewing on the Wayne National Forest



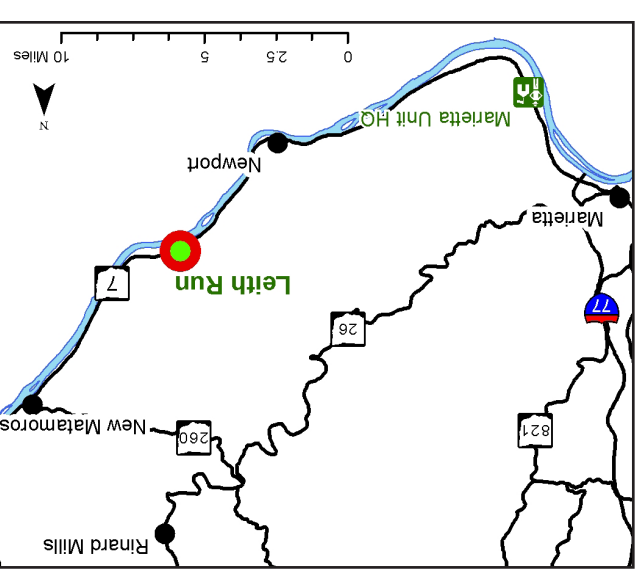
America's Great Outdoors

Forest Service
United States Department of Agriculture

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Updated 12/2010

This large lake (shown at right) nestled in the wooded hills is encircled by over 25 miles of hiking trails. These trails travel through some of the most striking landscapes that Ohio has to offer with a variety of vegetation, rock outcrops, and many species of wildlife. Camping, picnicking, or fishing make this an enjoyable place to spend a weekend. Woodland songbirds, deer, beaver, and turkey are commonly seen. Soaring above the lakes or perched in shoreline trees you may also see hawks and osprey.



Lake Vesuvius

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Contact Us

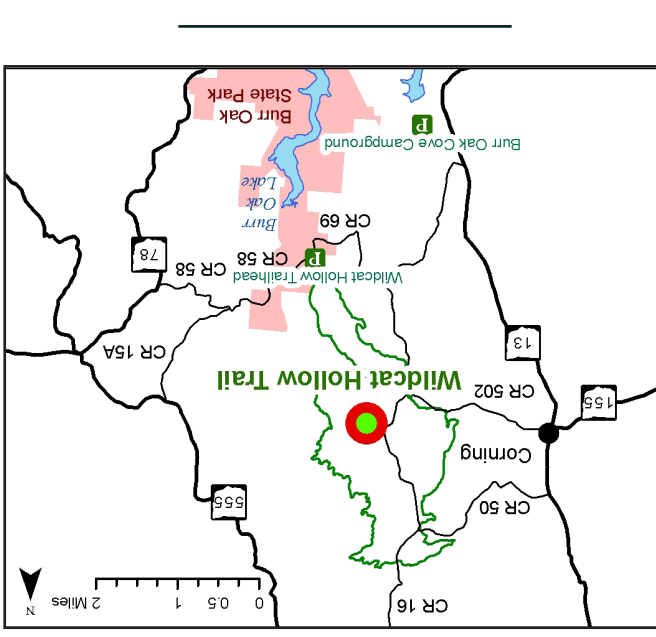
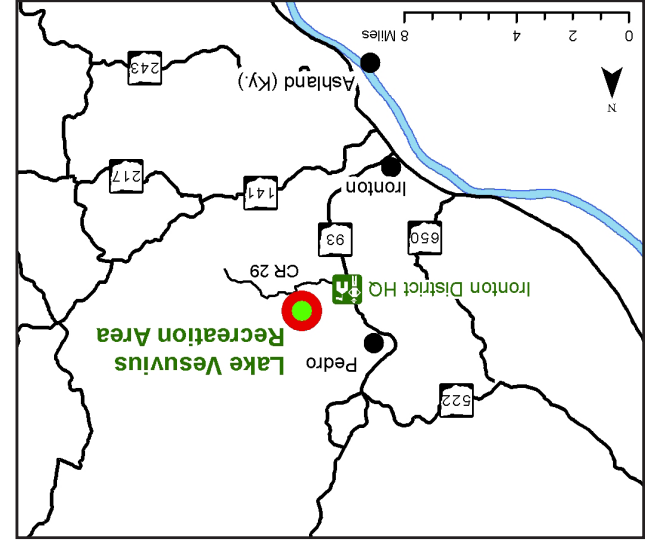
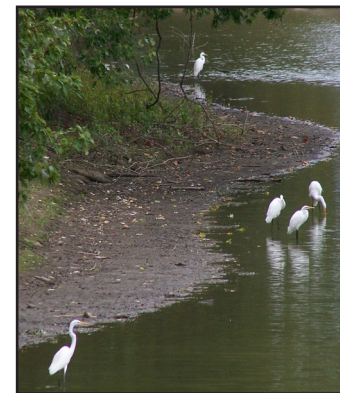
The Wayne has three offices to serve visitors. Office hours are 8 - 4:30 Monday through Friday.

Athens Ranger District
13700 U.S. Hwy 33
Nelsonville, OH 45764
Phone: 740-753-0101

Marietta Unit Office
27750 State Route 7
Marietta, OH 45750
Phone: 740-373-9055

Ironton Ranger District
6518 State Route 93
Pedro, OH 45659
Phone: 740-534-6500

Federal relay system for the deaf and hearing impaired: 1-800-877-8339
website: www.fs.usda.gov/wayne



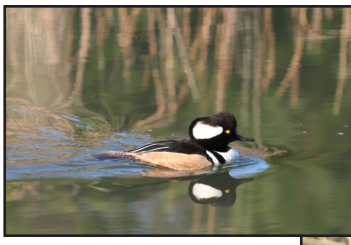
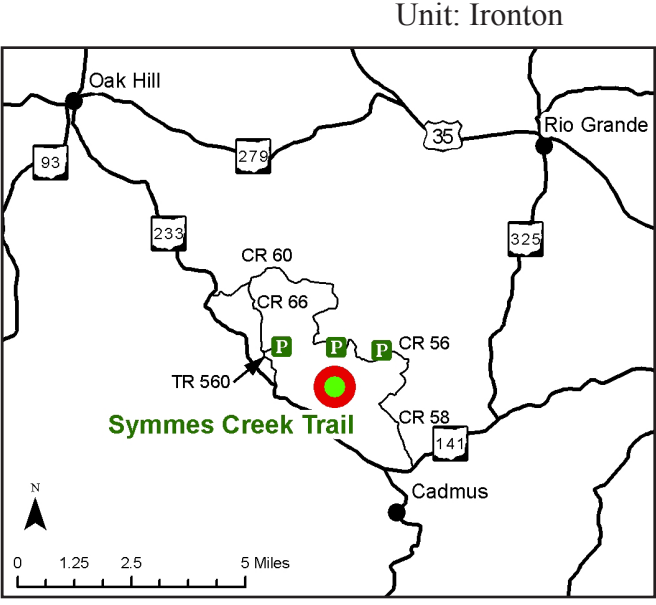
Wildcat Hollow Trail

This 15 mile trail (map below) traverses upland forests, stream bottoms, pine plantations, and meadows. White-tailed deer, wild turkeys, forest songbirds and numerous reptiles and amphibians are likely to be seen along its route. Wildflowers are abundant during spring and summer, and autumn colors are vibrant. Bird watchers be sure and bring your binoculars.

Unit: Athens

Symmes Creek Trail

This 6 mile trail near Gallipolis traverses a variety of forest types. Along this trail you'll find scenic overlooks, large rock outcrops, and natural wetlands. Spend a leisurely day in this scenic area watching birds, upland wildlife and rock dwelling creatures in the rock outcrops.



Viewing Wildlife in Ohio

These are only a few of the 80 identified sites scattered across Ohio, and only a fraction of the limitless opportunities visitors have to view and enjoy Ohio's vast wealth of wildlife. Watchable Wildlife is a national program with sites identified in most states.



